

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 122

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for penalties for the sale of any Purple Heart awarded to a member of the Armed Forces.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 15, 2019

Mr. PERDUE (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. UDALL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for penalties for the sale of any Purple Heart awarded to a member of the Armed Forces.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Private Corrado Piccoli
5 Purple Heart Preservation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Purple Heart medal solemnly recog-
9 nizes the great and sometimes ultimate sacrifice of

1 American servicemembers like Private Corrado
2 Piccoli.

3 (2) The Purple Heart medal holds a place of
4 honor as the national symbol of this sacrifice and
5 deserves special protections.

6 **SEC. 3. PENALTY FOR SALE OF PURPLE HEARTS AWARDED**
7 **TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

8 Section 704 of title 18, United States Code, is
9 amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “Whoever”
11 and inserting “Except as provided in subsection (e),
12 whoever”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(e) PURPLE HEART.—

15 “(1) PENALTY.—Whoever willfully purchases,
16 attempts to purchase, solicits for purchase, mails,
17 ships, imports, exports, produces blank certificates
18 of receipt for, manufactures, sells, attempts to sell,
19 advertises for sale, trades, barters, or exchanges for
20 anything of value any Purple Heart awarded to a
21 member of the armed forces or former member of
22 the armed forces by the Secretary of the military de-
23 partment concerned, except when authorized under
24 regulations made pursuant to law, shall be fined

1 under this title, imprisoned not more than 6 months,
2 or both.

3 “(2) LIMITATION ON REGULATIONS.—Regula-
4 tions described in paragraph (1) may not authorize
5 the sale of any Purple Heart awarded to a member
6 of the armed forces or former member of the armed
7 forces by the Secretary of the military department
8 concerned, unless the sale is conducted by the mem-
9 ber or former member to whom the Purple Heart
10 was awarded.

11 “(3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
12 ‘willfully’ means the voluntary, intentional violation
13 of a known legal duty.”.

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